

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01368 121449Z

45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NEAE-00 SCCT-01 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SY-05 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 EUR-12 USSS-00 /063 W

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O R 121424Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO USIA WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 8518

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1368

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT FOR MRS. GALLAGHER AND MRS. DYKES

1. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES LAMBRAKIS CALLED ON PRESIDENT FRANJIEH THIS MORNING IN COMPANY OF ACTING DCM WARING TO PRESS FOR LEBANESE ACTION ON CASE OF TWO KIDNAPPED USIA OFFICERS.

2. PRESIDENT STATED HE WAS UP TO DATE ON CASE, HAVING RECEIVED LATEST OF HIS WEEKLY BRIEFINGS FROM DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF SURET NATIONALE ON FEBRUARY 10. HE STATED THAT LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, LIKE USG, COULD NOT SUBMIT TO ANY RANSOM DEMAND THAT MIGHT BE PRESENTED, BUT HE AGREED WITH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES THAT LEBANESE AUTHORITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSURING PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS AND FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

3. PRESIDENT TOLD CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HE WOULD UNDERTAKE TWO THINGS: (A) HE WOULD MENTION CASE TO SYRIAN MEDIATING TEAM AFTER ITS RETURN TO BEIRUT THIS SATURDAY OR SUNDAY AND WOULD SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRM TO

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CHARGE D'AFFAIRES THAT HE HAD DONE SO; (B) IF THIS DID

NOT YIELD ANY RESULTS, HE WOULD APPROACH IRAQII GOVERNMENT.

4. CHARGE EMPHASIZED WE ARE COUNTING ON PRESIDENT'S
HELP AND NOTED THAT WE ARE UNDER PRESSURE FROM
JOURNALISTS BUT CONTINUE TO AVOID PUBLICITY TO PROTECT
KIDNAPPED OFFICERS' LIVES.

5. CHARGE IS SEEKING APPOINTMENT AS WELL WITH PRIME
MINISTER KARAMI TO URGE ACTION ON CASE.
ROSS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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